Ayurveda.—Under "Ayurveda", we propose to start a new Ayurvedic Hospital at Trippunittura with the necessary staff, which would satisfy a real need. The possibility of combating malaria by the application of Ayurvedic medicines, is under investigation and a special Vaidyan has been appointed for the purpose. An allotment of Rs. 10,000 has, in addition, been made under "Advances" to manufacture medicines of standard quality and to open a sales department for making good medicines available to the public at a moderately cheap price.

Public Works.—Another item which comes within the scheme of a progressive programme is "Public Works." As already stated, it may be seen from the programme of works before you that, except for the construction of Police and Military lines which are essential for the efficiency of the force and which involve a total outlay of about Rs. 1·2 lakhs, there is no building-construction worth the name provided for next year. The construction of groynes in Cheriakadavu, etc., and for which the House sanctioned a grant of Rs. 0·63 lakh this year could not be carried through for various reasons and hence a provision of Rs. 75,000 has been made therefor next year. Three other important schemes which would certainly go a long way to better the economic condition of the State, are either in progress or in embryo—I mean the Anamalais Road, the Chalakkudi Diversion Scheme and the Thottara Puncha Scheme. Though managed by the Public Works Department these schemes fall under "Capital Outlay" and I shall, therefore, reserve further remarks when I come to that subject.

Panchayats.—Next I come to the "Panchayats" which should correctly be the ideal units of local administration catering to all the needs of the Villages they serve with their definite works of Sanitation, Irrigation, Communications, etc. A very large provision of Rs. 4·06 lakhs is made for the Panchayats for next year. The striking features of the enhanced allotment are the additional amount of Rs. 10,000 for a better maintenance of the Panchayat roads and the special contribution of Rs. 1·75 lakhs.—Rs. 1·70 lakhs for irrigation works and Rs. 5,000 for wells in littoral tracts. Government fully realise that in the development of irrigation facilities for cultivation lies the salvation of the rural population and their motto will be "Irrigation, more irrigation and yet more irrigation" as His Excellency the late Viceroy now Viscount Halifax once stated. By a discretionary and well-advised use of this large grant, we hope that a great impetus would be given to the agricultural development of the several villages by the improvement of "Irrigation" and that there would be a steady increase in the agricultural out-put of the villages. It has also been decided that this allotment should be non-lapsable.

The budget before you further envisages the distribution of the lump provision for "Original Works" among the several Panchayats on the basis of their respective population and area. The works have to be decided by the Panchayats after scrutiny by Government.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC SERVICES

I shall now proceed to the provision made for Socio-economic services, like Co-operation, Rural Development and Uplift of the Depressed Classes.

Government are continuing without any limitation their Socio-economic services.

Co-operation.—Provision has been included in the budget for the Co-operative department as usual for development of non-official co-operative efforts by the issue of loans and grants to Co-operative Societies. Non-credit Societies are given an impetus by providing grants with a view to developing Co-operative mentality, by appointing paid Secretaries, etc. A sum of Rs. 2,500 has also been ear-marked for the Marketing Society engaged in the development of cottage industries. On the vote of this House, the Government have sanctioned the proposal of the Land Mortgage Bank to guarantee the issue of their debentures to a further extent of Rs. 20 lakhs; and a provision of Rs. 4·62 lakhs has been made under "Advances" for the Land Mortgage Bank for its daily transactions.

Uplift of the Depressed classes.—A separate department for the uplift of the depressed and backward communities has been functioning in the State for more than a decade and has been doing useful work. A sum of Rs. 0·71 lakh is ear-marked for this department for its activities which include development of colonies, educational concessions in Colleges and Schools, sinking wells in Harijan Colonies, maintenance of depressed class hostels, organisation of co-operative societies, etc. A special contribution of Rs. 2,750 is provided next year especially for sinking wells.

COLLECTION SERVICES

The collection services may be taken chiefly to include Land Revenue, Excise, Customs, Forests and Tramway, Registration and Anchal, Stamps and Income-tax. As the House is fully aware of, the Price Control and the Rice Control operations have expanded to such

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an extent as to necessitate the appointment of an Assistant Diwan Peishkar to cope with the increased work of the Land Revenue department. The question of the local manufacture of salt has been investigated and the prospects are found hopeful. A provisional allotment of Rs. 3,000 has been made for 1118 under "Excise" to start local manufacture of Salt. The other heads have mainly "carrying on" allotments, except perhaps "Forests" which department is aiding war effort by collecting the available supply of soft-wood. Though less than the revised estimate of Rs 4·88 lakhs by Rs. ·27 lakh the budget estimate for the coming year provides for extensive operations of the department in the matter of the collection of soft-wood and other kinds of wood which are now in demand for War supplies.

The higher income anticipated from the Income-tax department (Rs. 13 lakhs) is, as in the current year, expected to bring about the probable necessity for larger refunds and hence the budget estimate has been fixed at Rs. 1·48 lakhs. A temporary staff of a surveyor and 2 clerks have also been entertained to cope with the increased work.

LAW AND ORDER SERVICES

I now pass on to Law and Order Services—I mean Law and Justice, Jails, Police and Military. Of these, Jails, Police and Military make provision for larger allotments as compared with the previous year.

Jails.—The increase in the number of the jail population has led to the appointment of a temporary establishment of Warders, etc., and the increase in the cost of food stuff and the improvement of the menu have necessitated enhanced provision under "Diet of Prisoners".

Police.—Under "Police" we have provided for an increase of Rs. 0·58 lakh over the revised estimate of Rs. 2·48 lakhs. A temporary force of Head Constables, Constables, etc., has been recruited to replace the Armed Reserve and other forces taken for duty elsewhere to meet the present situation. It is proposed to give house rent allowance to the Police Force and for this purpose due provision has been made in the budget. We also propose to make the Police Force as efficient as possible by giving them more intensive training and by supplying them with up-to-date weapons and ammunition. Necessary allotment has been made for their training locally and at Vellore.

Military.—As for the "military" a reorganisation of the force is under contemplation and a lump sum provision of Rs. 23,576 has been made for it.

ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

Passing on, I now come to the administration services, *viz.*, General Administration, Finance and Accounts, Palace and Miscellaneous. These heads form the nerve centre of the whole administration and naturally adequate provision has to be made for them.

General Administration.—Under General Administration—Huzur —it will be noticed that the post of the Private Secretary to the Diwan has been abolished and in its place the post of a confidential clerk on a much lower scale created. The establishment of the Publicity Officer and staff has been disbanded; but a large temporary establishment of a Superintendent and clerks has been created to cope with the large volume of War correspondence.

Finance and Accounts.—The House will agree that it is highly necessary to see by timely audit that the money allotted to the various departments has been properly spent, and hence many institutions had been brought under Local Audit from time to time. This has necessitated the strengthening of the audit staff next year. The large increase in the number of Provident Fund subscribers has similarly necessitated the strengthening of the Provident Fund section by two auditors. A leave reserve staff has also been sanctioned as in British audit offices and this is expected to contribute to the efficiency of the audit department and bring in savings under leave allowance.

CAPITAL SERVICES

Capital outlay.—Lastly, I come to Capital services undertaken by the Government, the more important of which are the Railway, the Harbour, the Anamalais Road, Irrigation Works and Electrification. It has been the policy of the Government to find money for the capital programme from the balances and surplus investments and to borrow from open market only when absolutely necessary. The capital programme of the coming year is accordingly proposed to be met from our surplus funds. It may be pertinently asked whether it is not sounder to go to the open market for financing capital schemes. It is undoubtedly a sound financial principle to spread such burden over the future generations which are the main beneficiaries of such schemes, instead of shouldering the whole burden ourselves by spending our surpluses on them; but the time is not opportune nor is the need urgent to raise any such

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